Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing data regarding a dental prosthesis, the method comprising the steps of:

   a) providing input data which represent a three-dimensional surface of a tooth stump prepared for a prosthesis;

   b) providing stability requirements for the prosthesis, wherein the stability requirements include a minimum required thickness of the prosthesis,

   c) generating control data from said input data, said control data representing a control surface which meets the stability requirements,

   d) generating design data which represent the three-dimensional shape of the prosthesis, and

   e) displaying the shape of the prosthesis together with the control surface on a monitor;

   wherein the displayed control surface provides a visual representation of the minimum required thickness, the design data are modified by a user based on a visual comparison of the displayed design data and the displayed control surface in order to meet the stability requirements; and

   the design of the prosthesis corresponding to the modified design data is displayed on the monitor together with the control surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein in step d) the design data are generated from the input data.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein an outer surface of the prosthesis is scaled differently in at least two spatial axes such that a given preparation margin remains thereby unchanged.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the control surface meets the minimum stability requirements for the prosthesis.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:

    a) an input device for data regarding a three dimensional surface of a tooth stump prepared for a dental prosthesis;

    b) a central unit connected to the input device and running a program for processing the data according to a method comprising the steps of:

        i) providing input data which represent a three-dimensional surface of a tooth stump prepared for a prosthesis,

        ii) providing stability requirements for the prosthesis, <u>wherein the stability requirements include a minimum required thickness of the prosthesis,</u>

        iii) <u>generating control data from said input data, said control data representing a control surface which meets the stability requirements,</u>

        [[ii]]i<u>v</u>) generating design data which represent the three-dimensional shape of the prosthesis, and

        [[i]]v) displaying the shape of the prosthesis together with the control surface on a monitor;

        wherein <u>the displayed control surface provides a visual representation of the minimum required thickness,</u> the design data are modified by a user based on a visual comparison of the displayed design data and the displayed control surface in order to meet the stability requirements; and

        the design of the prosthesis corresponding to the modified design data is displayed on the monitor together with the control surface; and

    c) a display device connected to the central unit for the design of the prosthesis and the control surface.

7-12 (Cancelled)